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Morehead State University

Morehead, Kentucky

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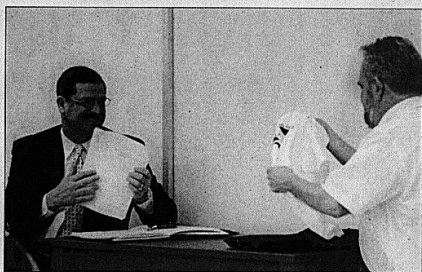


Photo by Kyle Wick

Dr. Bob Willenbrink, chair of the Department of Communications and Theatre, presents MSU President Wayne Andrews with a Theatre T-shirt and a tote bag following Andrews' meeting Tuesday with department faculty. Andrews said he is holding meetings with faculty in all departments to ask questions, discuss goals and determine how the administration can help departments reach them.

Student reports sexual assault

STAFF REPORT

On Feb. 15, a female student reported to the MSU police that she had been sexually assaulted on campus.

According to a press release, the student reported she was raped while walking near Eagle Lake at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 6.

She described her attacker as approximately 20 to 25 years old, 6 feet 3 inches tall with spiked

hair, green eyes, muscular build and wearing a black T-shirt and jeans, according to the release. She reported her attacker forced her to the ground at midpoint, according to the release.

MSU Police Chief Joseph Cline said the MSU Police Department is investigating the reported rape.

Cline said MSU police officers went door-to-door at Eagle Lake Apartments to ask if anybody

noticed suspicious persons or events on the evening of Feb. 6.

According to the press release, the MSU police are urging anyone who may have been near the lake on that day and time to contact the police department.

Cline said all persons on campus should be aware of their surroundings, walk in groups and stay in well-lit areas.

after discovering the suspect in their doorway. When Eric woke he did not see anybody in the apartment, but he noticed Shannon's purse had been moved. Fifty-three dollars was stolen from the purse, he said.

Eric proceeded outside to look for the suspect while Shannon contacted the police. Eric said he checked all the floors of Normal Hall Apartments, but did not notice anyone suspicious until he saw someone coming up the stairs to the second floor.

"I was mad and excited at the same time," Eric said.

Eric stopped the suspicious person and talked to him when he saw the man trying to shove money into his pockets.

Eric realized this was the burglarly suspect, he said.

"The guy was really drunk," Eric said.

Eric did not want to restrain the suspect himself because he knew the police were around the corner searching for the suspect.

He also restrained himself out of

"I am paranoid about going out. The other night I didn't want to walk down to the laundry room because it was dark."

— MSU student Shannon Shepherd, whose Normal Hall apartment was burglarized on Feb. 10.

fear of wrongful accusation charges, he said.

Eric said he led the suspect toward the police, but as soon as the suspect saw the police he ran.

Eric and the police officer chased after the suspect, but he disappeared heading toward the football field.

"There was no trace of him anywhere," Eric said.

After the suspect escaped, the police denied the apartment for fingerprints, Eric said.

The next morning, Eric realized his Sony PlayStation 2 was turned on and two games were missing from the cases in which they were stored.

The police sent the cases to Frankfurt to do accurate fingerprint dusting, Eric said.

Eric and Shannon are still struggling with the memories of that

Council legalizes Sunday alcohol sales in restaurants

BY MICHAEL ADKINS
EDITOR

In a hotly debated meeting Monday night, Morehead's City Council approved a city ordinance that legalizes the sale of alcohol by the drink on Sundays in certain restaurants within the city limits.

The vote tally was 4-2 in favor of the ordinance, with only City Council members Al Baldwin and Mike Mincey opposing the issue.

The ordinance authorized the sale of alcoholic beverages from 1 to 9 p.m. in restaurants that have the capacity to seat at least 130 customers. These restaurants must also derive at least 50 percent of their gross revenue from the sale of food.

Currently, the ordinance only affects four Morehead restaurants: La Finca, China Star, Reno's Steakhouse and The Front Porch.

Monday's council meeting was held in the Carl Perkins Center on Flemingsburg Road. While no official head count was taken, approximately 80 members of the public attended the meeting.

Before the start of the meeting, Morehead City Council member David Perkins said the issue was obviously divisive. He used the 2004 presidential election as an analogy for the heated nature of the debate.

"Maybe they should have split us into red and blue sections," Perkins said.

At 6:30 p.m., after discussing routine business, Morehead Mayor Brad Collins opened the debate on the Sunday alcohol sales issue.

Council members were allowed



Photo by Michael Adkins

Fred Brown, owner of White Crow Comics in Morehead, spoke in favor of legalizing Sunday alcohol sales at the City Council meeting Monday.

to speak on the matter first. Council member Al Baldwin opened the remarks by saying he was against legalizing Sunday alcohol sales.

"I don't have to think it's one of the more pressing economic issues in the community," Baldwin said.

Baldwin said the divisive nature of the issue was unfortunate for the community.

"Whatever the outcome, I hope we can move on to more pressing

issues," he said.

Council member Mike Mincey said he was against legalizing Sunday alcohol sales, but for different reasons than Baldwin.

"I don't think it's an economic issue; it's a moral issue," Mincey said.

Mincey said the city needs to bring in more jobs and increase technological capabilities in order to improve the economy, not rely on Sunday sales of alcohol.

Mincey said he had been in contact with members of the community in favor of legalizing Sunday sales. They suggested to him that he and the council should travel to other cities, both domestic and international, to see what places that allow Sunday sales are like.

"Well, I've travelled internationally, and I don't particularly like what I see," Mincey said.

Council member Shirley Hamilton said important decisions have to be made at the local level, and she praised the citizens who came to the meeting to participate in that process.

"This is democracy in action," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said she has lived in Rowan County for 32 years, and it is still the same caring community it always was.

"None of the gloomy predictions some have mentioned will come to pass," she said. "The leaders you see here won't let that happen."

Hamilton addressed the objec-

See COUNCIL—Page 2

Couple shaken by burglary in Normal Hall

BY ASHLEY SORRELL
NEWS EDITOR

A campus safety alert has been issued by the Morehead State University Police Department after a burglary was reported at Normal Hall Apartments in the early morning hours of Feb. 10.

Eric Shepherd and his wife, Shannon, reported the burglary after waking up and discovering someone was in their second-floor apartment.

Eric said his wife was in bed when she heard a noise in the apartment. When she started to get out of bed to investigate the noise, Shannon noticed a man standing at the doorway of the bedroom, Eric said.

"I went into shock," Shannon said. "I couldn't move or say anything."

Eric said his wife woke him up

after discovering the suspect in their doorway. When Eric woke he did not see anybody in the apartment, but he noticed Shannon's purse had been moved. Fifty-three dollars was stolen from the purse, he said.

Eric proceeded outside to look for the suspect while Shannon contacted the police. Eric said he checked all the floors of Normal Hall Apartments, but did not notice anyone suspicious until he saw someone coming up the stairs to the second floor.

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The police sent the cases to Frankfurt to do accurate fingerprint dusting, Eric said.

Eric and Shannon are still struggling with the memories of that

night.

"It is hard to sleep now," Eric said.

Shannon said they used to leave their bedroom door open, but now they have to shut it.

"If I don't shut the door, I can still see [the suspect] in our doorway," she said.

Eric said he has awakened at 12:30 a.m. the past few nights because that was the time Shannon woke him on

the night of the burglary.

The burglary has also affected Shannon's everyday activities.

"I am paranoid about going out," Shannon said. "The other night I don't want to walk down to the laundry room because it was dark," she said.

Eric thinks the suspect is a student at MSU and has looked at photos of potential suspects.

Eric said he has awakened at 12:30 a.m. the past few nights because that was the time Shannon woke him on

See NORMAL—Page 2

Grand jury indicts former students on drug charges; first hearings today

BY ASHLEY SORRELL
NEWS EDITOR

Fifteen former MSU students were indicted in a special grand jury session Feb. 4 in Rowan Circuit Court.

The students were arrested Nov. 22 on felony charges of drug trafficking on or near the MSU campus.

An indictment is a formal charge and does not determine guilt.

The arrests were part of a coordinated effort by the MSU Police Department and Operation Unlawful Narcotics Investigation Treatment and Education (UNITE).

The effort resulted in 20 arrest warrants and 19 arrests on or around

MSU's campus.

The arrests were made after undercover investigations were completed by the Kentucky State Police, Morehead Police, MSU Police and Operation UNITE.

The undercover investigations came as a result of complaints the campus police received from MSU students at the beginning of the fall semester about possible drug trafficking on campus.

Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Gary Adkins said many drug cases were presented in front of the grand jury during the special session.

The following former MSU students were indicted by the grand jury:

• Stanley Sherwood, Jr., 21, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3.

• Adam Jones for allegedly trafficking marijuana Nov. 15.

• Gregory Shane Holsinger, 21, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 8.

• Brandon Kelly, 18, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 13 and Oct. 14.

• Carlos Patton, Jr., 23, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 8 and Nov. 1.

• Anthony Rogers, Jr., 20, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 22.

• John McClain for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 18.

• Lucas Thacker, 21, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 25.

The former MSU students above are scheduled to appear in Rowan County District Court on March 4. Judge Beth Maze will preside over the hearings.

The other persons indicted were:

• Jonathan Sparks for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Nov. 8.

• Scott Reed, 19, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Nov. 15 and Nov. 16.

• Matthew W. Layman, 21, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Nov. 1.

• Ryan S. Lynch, 19, for allegedly trafficking hashish on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.

• Augustinus Lobach, 23, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Oct. 18.

• Ian Baker, 18, for allegedly trafficking marijuana on Nov. 8.

• Catherine Besborg, 19, for allegedly trafficking disizup on Nov. 12, and alprazolam on Nov. 13.

The former MSU students above are scheduled to appear in Rowan County District Court on Feb. 17. Judge William Mains will preside over the preliminary hearings.

STAFF REPORT

For medical clinics throughout the nation, the months of January and February bring an onslaught of patients sickened by influenza.

The Canfield Medical Clinic is no different, having treated approximately 30 cases of the virus since the start of 2005, according to Kimbha King, the facility's nurse administrator.

Despite the high number of cases this year, Dr. William Melahn, medical director of the clinic, said this year's flu season has been milder.

"I'm not seeing more than average," Melahn said. "Probably one

percent of those [students] who live on campus have come in with the flu."

Melahn said last fall's nationwide shortage of flu vaccinations has not resulted in a widespread increase of cases on campus.

Melahn said most college-age students are not considered "at risk" for the flu and do not get the flu shot regardless of shortage or surplus.

Only about 10 percent of MSU students received the vaccination before the last flu season.

The flu is a viral infection, which is spread among the population by

How to beat the flu:

- Get lots of rest.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Water and juices are best.
- Take acetaminophen or ibuprofen to relieve headaches and fevers.
- Take over-the-counter cough medicine to control coughing.

Source: Canfield Health Clinic

Correction
A fish being held by Dr. Larry Bessant in a photo on Page 2 in the Feb. 10 issue was incorrectly identified. The fish was a muskie.

NORMAL | MSU police still searching for suspect in burglary case

From FRONT

glah. The police are following up on the identified photo.

"I hope he gets caught," Eric said. "I see him again, he is going to be

caught. He'll get his eventually," Eric said.

According to a press release, the suspect in the burglary case is described as a white male, slim build, approximately 5 feet 9 inches

tall with strawberry blond hair. At the time of the robbery, he was described as wearing white khaki pants and a black jacket.

In the release, MSU Police Chief Joe Cline reminded all MSU stu-

dents to lock their doors at night.

Cline urged students to contact the University Police or call 911 if suspicious persons are spotted on campus. Police are still looking for the suspect.

FLU | Washing hands is crucial

From FRONT

droplets that are coughed or sneezed into the air. Initial symptoms include chills and fever, sweating, muscle aches, followed by nasal congestion, sore throat, coughing, and eye sensitivity to light. Flu

symptoms last approximately three to seven days.

"Hand washing is one of the easiest and most effective ways to ways to prevent the spread of the flu," Metelsh said.

Former RA indicted on child porn charges

STAFF REPORT

A former resident advisor has been indicted by a federal grand jury in Lexington, Ky., on charges of receiving and possessing child pornography.

According to the indictment, Ashburn, 41, of Morehead, was indicted for the possession of 20 visual images and videos on

his computer of minor girls engaged in sexually explicit activity.

According to the indictment, Ashburn received the images and videos while he was a resident advisor at MSU.

The charges in question date back to February 2003 and continue to December 2003.

MSU Police Chief Joseph Cline said the university police department and the Kentucky State Police Electronic Crime Branch started the initial investigation in 2003 after receiving a complaint.

MSU and KSP police arrested Ashburn at his residence on Feb. 15 without incident.

At the time of his arrest, Ashburn was not a student at MSU.

If convicted on all charges, Ashburn could face up to 400 years in prison.

Ashburn pleaded not guilty to all charges before a federal judge. Ashburn will stand trial on April 18 at 9 a.m. in Lexington.

COUNCIL | Alcohol vote was only non-unanimous action of evening

From FRONT

tions many religious community members have voiced in regards to the issue.

"Many people of faith identify themselves as Christians say the sale of alcohol on Sundays is a choice," she said.

Hamilton also encouraged the public to continue to shop in Morehead and give businesses their patronage after the vote.

Hamilton said the issue is of greater scope than simply allowing alcohol sales on certain particular days.

"What we're looking at is a bigger picture - quality of business and quality of life," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said the potential for more restaurants to come to Morehead as a result of legalizing Sunday sales was an important factor to consider, especially because of the jobs these restaurants would bring.

"There's nothing that brings more self-esteem than a paycheck," Hamilton said. "Some may look down on restaurant jobs, but they're still jobs, and important ones."

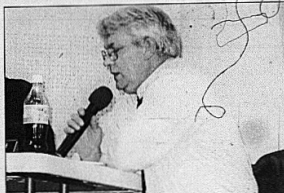
After the council concluded its debate, Collins addressed the audience and announced the rules for public address on the Sunday sales issue.

Collins said there would be a two-minute time limit on speaking, and he also asked that the audience not cheer, applaud or boo after any speaker, "...because that will just make a contentious issue even more contentious," he said.

Bob Albert, a Morehead resident, said he supported the legalization of Sunday alcohol sales. He said he respects the opinions of those opposed to the matter, but he did not agree with the argument that legalizing Sunday sales would increase incidences of alcohol abuse, which Albert said he had heard.

Albert also said legalizing Sunday sales would help the city's economy.

"It will most likely bring us one



City Council member Al Baldwin speaks against legalizing Sunday alcohol sales at the Monday meeting.

solid restaurant chain, and it could open doors for other opportunities," Albert said.

Dr. Ann Andoloro, MSU associate professor of communications, said the possibility of bringing more jobs to Morehead is especially important to students at the university who have to work to pay for expenses while attending classes.

Andoloro spoke of a former MSU student who was forced to leave school and return to her Chicago-area home because of the lack of employment opportunities.

Tim Stevens, an area resident, said he was strongly opposed to the legalization of Sunday sales because of his religious convictions.

"It's wrong to sell alcohol on Sunday, what's supposed to be the Lord's Day," Stevens said. "If you vote this day, you'll have to bear full responsibility for it."

Dr. Scott Davidson, a Morehead resident and associate professor of philosophy on a sabbatical from MSU, said he supported the issue.

He said not everyone in town is a Christian, and not everyone takes the Bible seriously.

Davidson also said, even though he is a Christian, his understanding

of the Bible prohibits drunkenness, not the imbibing of alcohol altogether.

Susan Neff, a representative of the Rowan County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), said she opposed the issue.

She said she respected the freedom of choice, but that was not the determining factor in this case.

"It's not my business to tell you all to drink or not to drink, but when you run into someone after drinking, it becomes my business," Neff said.

Thelma Johnson, of Elizabethtown, said she was opposed to any alcohol sales, and especially on Sunday. She said any economic benefit accrued from Sunday sales might be offset by lost patronage.

"If Christians decide not to eat in Morehead on Sundays, there'll be a lot less jobs," Johnson said.

After the meeting, Council member David Perkins said the vote went mostly the way he expected.

"Of course, you never really know until you say 'yes' or 'no,' but based on my gut feeling, it went down the way I thought it would."

Perkins applauded the courage exhibited by community members who spoke at the meeting, particularly those who mentioned loved ones who had died as a result of

drunk driving accidents.

Perkins said he wished the public would participate in the decision-making process more often.

"It's just a matter of getting people to stand up and take a stance," Perkins said.

Perkins said the number of people attending the meeting who were opposed to legalizing Sunday alcohol sales did not surprise him, but he was surprised at the low turnout of people in favor of the issue.

"I thought there would have been more," Perkins said. "In this situation, people tend to tell you in private what they think and hope you vote how they feel."

Perkins disagreed with the assertion that Sunday alcohol sales would lead to increased incidences of drunk driving.

He said similar comments were made prior to the passage of the 1982 ordinance authorizing alcohol sales in Morehead.

"There used to be a really nasty, terrible wrecks," Perkins said. "There still are some, but not so much now. The traffic flow to Mount Sterling [to get alcohol] evaporated, as did the flow to boot-leggers." That's cut down on drunk-driving rates.

Because people who wanted to drink alcohol on Sundays prior to this ordinance had to drive as far away as Lexington or Huntington to get it, Perkins said drunk driving rates could see a decline for a similar reason as in the 1982 decision.

As reported in last week's edition of *The Trail Blazer*, Scott Schick, a business owner from Portsmouth, Ohio, had expressed interest in opening a Buffalo Wild Wings franchise in Morehead if Sunday alcohol sales were legalized. Schmidt did not attend Monday's meeting.

Perkins said Schmidt's absence was not a major problem.

"He may have chosen to pull back from the fray a little, because the issue is, frankly, bigger than him," Perkins said. "But he definitely has a stake in it."

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EDITORIAL

Ed secretary should focus on problems, not cartoon rabbits

In her first official act as President Bush's Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings denounced the Public Broadcasting Service's cartoon "Postcards from Buster" saying it promotes homosexuality.

Spellings demanded PBS return government funding used to finance the episode "Sagartime" in which the cartoon rabbit, Buster, visits a lesbian couple making maple syrup in Vermont. The episode is one of a series where Buster visits families of varying cultures and occupations around the country and is intended to teach children about diversity. Spellings stated this episode was inappropriate because parents do not want their children exposed to homosexuality.

This is not the first time right-wing conservatives have made preposterous claims of cartoon characters promoting homosexuality. Children's cartoons such as "Spongebob Squarepants" and "The Teletubbies" also have fallen victim to right-wing condemnation for supposedly featuring homosexual characters.

Spellings is further advancing the right-wing religious agenda by denouncing PBS and banning the episode in question from being shown.

Legislating morality by attacking children's cartoons that teach diversity and tolerance has dangerous consequences. The traditional family is not the only model in the United States. There are divorced families, single parents and yes, even same-sex couples raising children. Children need to be exposed to the diverse family systems that exist in the United States. Not exposing children to all the diverse people and ideas that make up the United States' social structure only leads to a generation of close-minded, non-tolerant children filled with hate for those different than themselves.

The school dropout rate in the United States is at 11 percent and the public schools are overcrowded and under-funded. Spellings should be more concerned about improving the education system in the United States than spending her time looking for fault-finding tendencies in cartoon characters.

If Spellings' first actions are any indication of what is on her agenda for the next four years, our schools will continue to struggle and fail, while the person in charge of improving our nation's educational system spends her time chasing after cartoon rabbits.

A.S.

CONSIDER THIS!

"They diagnosed me in 2003 with an incurable disease ... I didn't want to leave my family with financial problems."

— an unidentified 53-year-old Italian father who admitted to police that he robbed more than 10 banks to build a big enough inheritance to leave to his children, after being diagnosed with lung cancer.
REUTERS

"They don't get hungry. They're not afraid. They don't forget their orders. They don't care if the guy next to them has just been shot. Will they do a better job than humans? Yes."

— Gordon Johnson of the Pentagon's Joint Forces Command, discussing the Army's \$127 billion project called Future Combat Systems, which is aimed at making robots a major fighting force in the U.S. military within the next decade.
THE NEW YORK TIMES



Commentary

N. Korea has every right to fear U.S. intent



MICHAEL A. ADAMS
Editor

North Korea government officials announced publicly for the first time on Thursday that the country has nuclear weapons. The representatives also said North Korea would no longer participate in negotiations designed to bring about an end to its nuclear program.

A statement issued by North Korea's state-run news agency said the decision was due to the Bush administration's desire for "regime change" and efforts made to "isolate and encircle" the nation. I've heard several students discussing this issue on campus, since the news broke, and a common theme I've noticed is a gen-

eral dismissal of North Korea's statement that the decision to develop and keep its nuclear weapons is because of the Bush administration's stance towards North Korea.

While I am not in favor of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il having functional nuclear weapons, the justification given for possessing them seems entirely logical to me.

The United States has had a tense history with North Korea for many years. Since the end of hostilities in the Korean War in the mid-1950s, tens of thousands of U.S. troops have been stationed on the border between North and South Korea, to deter any invasion attempts. In the eyes of most North Koreans, we've probably oversteered our welcome by about 50 years or so.

Plus, President Bush did nothing to salve that wound when he

declared in 2002 that North Korea was part of an "axis of evil" along with Iraq and Iran. I'm no diplomat or ambassador, but I would think that sort of statement would tend to put the kibosh on future diplomatic relations.

But North Korea has reason to fear the United States aside from the nation's own strained relations.

Of all the nations recognized by the United Nations as nuclear powers — Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan and the United States — only we have ever used a nuclear weapon in war.

And not only do we have the dubious distinction of being the only nation to use the most hellish weapon ever conceived, we used it twice. Remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki in World War II? We dropped nuclear bombs on two Japanese cities full

of innocent civilians — not on a Japanese naval base, or an army encampment, or any other purely military target.

So let's review. On-record statements made by members of the Bush administration saying they seek regime change in North Korea? Check. North Korean resentment of U.S. troops being stationed close to its border? Check. Declaration of North Korea's government as part of the so-called "axis of evil"? Check. Proven willingness of the U.S. government to use nuclear weapons? Check. Proven willingness of the U.S. government to use nuclear weapons on civilian non-combatants? Check.

Given all those factors, I'd say North Korea has a lot to fear. And, frankly, so do the rest of us.

OPINION WRITERS can be reached at opinion@trailblazeronline.net.

Bush is mortgaging America's future

BY ANDREW MIDGETT
THE REVELLE
LOUISIANA STATE U.

U-WIRE — The power to tax and spend is the machinery by which governments operate and politicians pay back their constituents. In his proposal for the fiscal year 2006 budget, President Bush has shown that an immoral and sentimental commitment to fiscal irresponsibility is crucial in bringing about his goals for the 21st century.

Unpopular even with Bush's own party, the proposed legislation reinforces his maniacal tax cuts, slashes many social programs and omits many foreseeable costs.

Care Vidal once said that, for Bush, his presidency is like one of those dreams in which you know you're really asleep and can do whatever awful thing you want. This administration, no longer feel-

ing the pang of illegitimacy, has decided to delay its promises for the persecution of women and homosexuals in order to pursue its real agenda — the solidification of American social classes.

Democrats are trained to ferret out negative aspects of any Bush scheme. Their job is easier, however, when the deceit also brings criticism from Republicans. The outrage of fiscal conservatives is understandable — Bush promised to begin paying down the debt and has instead proposed the largest single-year deficit in history: \$437 billion.

Instead of raising taxes, Bush has proposed some paltry cuts in about 150 government programs, some of which were completely abandoned. Budget reductions are in the works for farm subsidies, veteran benefits, education, police and fire depart-

ments and homeland security.

This consistent Bush domestic doctrine — the neediest among us are asked to make the great American sacrifice while the opulent do nothing. This has the potential to ruin our nation in the years to come.

Bush harps on these tax cuts as some brilliant economic savior, and he would be proud that 60 percent of the benefits have gone to the top 20 percent of Americans. Economic law prove that Bush's regressive tax cuts are a faulty stimulus for the simple fact that poor people spend money faster than rich people.

What encourages growth is giving money to people who won't save it, and this is certainly not the wealthy. If made permanent, the Bush tax cuts will cause an additional \$10 billion in debt over the next 30 years, according to a study

by the AFL-CIO.

The strangest mendacity of all is the omission of specific provisions for continued operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and the magnificent costs of any overhaul of Social Security. While the former will likely cost an additional \$50 billion, the latter may ultimately cost several trillions.

Time and time again, there seems to be a severe disconnect between reality and fantasy with regards to costs and consequences. Bush's cuts are an empty and ineffective gesture designed to feed an interest in prudent fiscal stewardship and the erosion of America's place as the world's superpower will be Bush's gift to posterity.

All he wants is return in about \$25-\$27.71 from each citizen to pay down the national debt.

The Issue

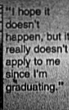
Are you concerned about a possible tuition increase?

As colleges throughout Kentucky prepare budgets for the next school year, tuition hikes are becoming recurring events thanks to limited state funding for higher education. WKU will increase tuition 18 percent next year, while UK's rates will rise 14.5 percent.

MSU students told The Trail Blazer their thoughts on the ever-present chance of a tuition hike.



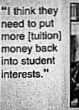
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Hindman, Ky.



Bonnie Butcher
Senior
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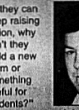
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John Jenkins
Junior
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Angela Rowe
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Morehead, Ky.



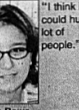
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Biology
Lexington, Ky.



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Biology
Sandy Hook, Ky.



Angela Rowe
Senior
Elementary Education
Morehead, Ky.

Legally blind student pursues career in art

BY RACHELL RAUHL

STAFF WRITER

"I've lived an interesting life, if nothing else," says Christopher Paul Arnett.

Many MSU students have probably seen Arnett walking around campus. He dresses in dark clothing that covers most of his skin, he wears his reddish-blond hair pulled neatly into a ponytail, and dons what looks like a pair of sunglasses. Those glasses, with their black metal rectangular frames and dark reddish-brown lenses, may seem like part of a fashion statement. In this case, those dark lenses are the reason Chris Arnett can see.

Arnett is legally blind, but that has not stopped him from working for his bachelor's degree in art, which he plans to complete at the end of the semester.

Arnett was born with a severe misalignment of his eyes and acute albinism. The misalignment was corrected with surgery when he was about 4 years old. Albinism is a genetic condition that results in a person having an absence of pigment in the skin, hair and eyes. This condition can also cause impaired vision and makes the affected person sensitive to light.

Arnett is both sensitive to light and legally blind.

"I can see generally shapes and colors, but I can't usually read writing or make out fine detail in things pretty far off. ... Even with my glasses my best corrected vision is 20/100 in one eye and

20/70 in the other," says Arnett.

Morehead State first caught Arnett's attention in the summer of 1994 when he spent seven weeks participating in the



Photo By Rachael Rauhl

Christopher Paul Arnett

Morehead Occupational Academic Retreat. During his time on campus, Arnett was able to experience college style classes and was able to work in the art department.

"I loved the architecture. I loved the town, the environment and stuff, plus the people in the art department ... had made a pretty good impression on me. And I really wanted to come back down here," Arnett says.

Arnett says his experiences at MSU have been mostly positive. He enjoys the classes, and is appreciative of the interest his

professors show in improving his abilities as an artist.

He says his biggest challenge has been when professors have trouble realizing his disadvantage in the classroom.

"I've had a very good experience here at school," Arnett says. "I just think a lot of [the teachers] think that I tend to exaggerate my condition. My disability isn't very visible and very obvious. It tends to slip their mind."

Arnett says he has been involved in art and comic book design since the first grade. He is currently working on an animated series that he plans to market after college, and he is collaborating with a friend on designing a video game. Arnett also enjoys computer manipulation of photography and simple studio portraits in graphic.

"I'd like one day to own a comic book store. That's my real dream," Arnett says.

After graduation, Arnett says he hopes to use art as a means of extra income. He is currently engaged to a student at Morehead State University and is on his way to owning a home and graduating from Morehead State.

Arnett is considering attending graduate school, but has not made any definite plans. He lives with his fiancée, his 5-year-old twin daughters, and three cats.

"There's a motto I've lived my entire life by," Arnett says. "Don't try to live a great life, just try to live your life. Let history make its own judgments."

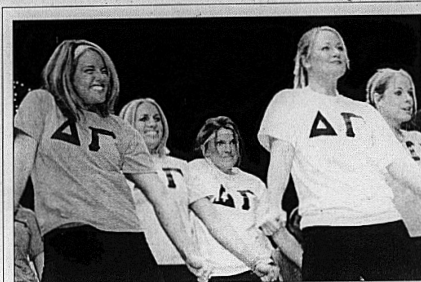


Photo By Bethany Lewis

Delta Gamma, from left, Andrea Sharp, Heidi Hassle, Lauren McCain, Angela Lundford and Megan Savage, pleased the crowd with a dance routine during the annual Chi Omega Follies held Feb. 8 in Button Auditorium. The Delta Gamma won Best Theme award.

MSPR celebrating black history, culture, leaders

BY CARLA PEOPLES

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Morehead State Public Radio (MSPR) has been celebrating Black History Month throughout February by dedicating every Monday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to the heritage and culture of African Americans, according to the MSPR Web site.

Jenese Franklin, host of the program "Classical Black," said she is featuring works from African American artists, composers and performers for the first hour of the dedication. Works from artists such as William Grant Still, Duke Ellington and Kathleen Battle will air during this hour.

Documentaries of important black Americans have been aired at

2 p.m., Franklin said. Two of those featured "The Making of a Man: The Story of Frederick Douglass" and "Martin Luther King Jr.'s Path to Nonviolence."

The Frederick Douglass documentary recounts his life and how he became the champion of freedom, according to the MSPR Web site. Other documentaries will highlight white women who crossed the color barrier to work with the civil rights movement and first person accounts from slave times.

Franklin said MSPR will also air "Moments to Remember," two-minute reports highlighting black Americans and Africans who have played a vital role in the development of the United States.

Some of those featured are

Sammy Davis Jr., Dorothy

Dandridge and Earl Graves. "We feel it's important to take time during Black History Month to take part in the national celebration of contributions and achievements of African-Americans," Franklin said. "It's important to celebrate Black History Month because it's a way to celebrate our culture's heritage."

"Civil rights, inventions, politics, musicians and actors have all added to our entire culture as Americans," Franklin said. "And we are all a part of that culture." Black History Month, which dates back to 1926, is credited to Carter G. Woodson. Woodson was a Harvard scholar and Kentucky native.

Do you know any interesting people or happenings we should be covering?

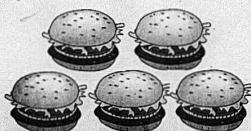
Are you hosting or helping with any events we need to put in our Campus Calendar?

Contact us at 783-2697 or by e-mail at campuslife@trailblazeronline.net

Campus Calendar

—All events are free and open to the public—

- Feb. 17: Faculty recital..... Dr. Deb Eastwood, trumpet, and Dr. Stacy Baker, tuba
Duncan Recital Hall, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 18: Rifle..... Ohio Valley Conference Championships,
8 a.m., Button Rifle Range
- Feb. 18: Americana Crossroads Live..... Troublesome Creek and Spencer
Bohren 7:30 p.m., Duncan Recital Hall
- Feb. 23: American Red Cross Blood Drive..... ADUC, TBA



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Photo By Kyle Wolf

Cast members of the MSU theatre production "Marvin's Room" performs a scene. The play opened on Feb. 15 and runs through Feb. 19.

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SPORTS

MSU weakens chance for OVC Tournament

Two more conference losses add to Eagle record, MSU ranked tenth

BY BETHANY LEWIS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Eagles weakened their chance in attending this year's conference tournament after two more losses last week.

The Women's Basketball team 57-74 to Jacksonville State, 68-57 to Samford University and is currently tied 10th in Ohio Valley Conference standings.

Though the top eight women's teams attend the OVC Tournament, MSU might have a chance to redeem itself with four more regular season conference games on the schedule.

Last Thursday Jacksonville State's victory pushed its recent winning streak to five games and placed the team fourth in OVC standings.

In the start of the game, slow play turned into an eight point Gamcock lead at 12:39 in the first half. But a 14-6 Eagle run put Morehead on top 38-34 before the break.

Early in the second half MSU remained close in score as the Gamecocks forced three ties before the final stretch of the game.

The game ended in a 14-5 offensive run over Morehead.

In this JSU's Coble Cartledge led the match-up with a career high of 17 points, seven rebounds and shooting 8-for-9 from the field.

For MSU junior Natalie Collins led with 11 points. Anisha Smith-Williams had 10 points, five assists and four steals, while TaNeisha Johnson scored 10 points and Putti White added nine.

Jacksonville Head Coach Dave Dagostino said of Morehead,

"They're always a tough match-up for us because we have small guards."

"They're very well coached they just haven't reached that point where they get yet," Dagostino said.

Saturday staying in Alabama, the Eagles faced a tough sixth-ranked OVC Samford team.

The game played out similar to Thursday's game as MSU stayed close to the competitor but could not pull it together in the end.

Within the first three minutes of the game, the Bulldogs went on a 6-1-point run. But a few plays later Morehead was on top.

At 13:35 a jumper by MSU's White tied the score at seven and a minute later, a Bulldog turnover gave White another opportunity that put MSU up 9-7.

After tying the score two more times, Samford jumped ahead 18-12 with 6:52 left in the first half.

Morehead got as close as two points but could not catch up as the Bulldogs went into the locker room leading 28-24.

The second half belonged to Samford as Morehead tailed the entire half.

MSU's White scored the first points of the half after sinking a three pointer at 19:10. But a 5-1 Bulldog run put MSU behind 33-27.

After three scoreless minutes and eight missed shots, SU collected a defensive rebound and LaBrena Friend scored a lay-up, which was the start to a more up-beat second half.

After the Bulldog lay-up, MSU hit a 4-0-point run that closed the

gap 35-32. But Samford responded with a 9-2 run over the Eagles.

Lagging by 10 MSU stepped closer to victory with an eight-point run to cut the Samford lead by two at 8:27.

Less than a minute later the Bulldogs took the game with a 6-0 run and eventually led by as much as 16 points.

The game ended as Morehead closed the gap with a 5-0 run in the last minute and a half of play.

Leading the Eagles, Tarah Combs scored 16 points, TaNeisha Johnson had 12 points, Shelly Johnson collected 11 rebounds and Jesse Piane pulled down eight.

MSU Head Coach Laura Litter said the Eagles could have won both games this weekend.

"We got everything it takes, it's just us pulling together in the last stretch of the game," she said.

Morehead will complete its regular season play this week with four home games.

The Ladies will face Eastern Illinois tonight at 5:30 p.m. in Johnson Arena. Next they will play Saturday at 5:30 p.m. against Southeast Missouri and again on next Thursday and Saturday.

Litter said the preparation for the four-game homestead is good.

"It's just matter of stepping up," she said. "I think we'll get a win."

She said to the fans, "If you want to see how we play, come see the last four games because we are facing some of the toughest teams in the conference."

"It's great to get students involved. It's their opportunity to support the team," Litter said.



Photos by Bethany Lewis

Freshman guard Anisha Smith-Williams holds a game ball above her head before setting up a play at the top of the key. Last weekend Williams led MSU against Jacksonville State with 10 points, five assists and four steals. On Saturday against Samford she totaled six points and five defensive rebounds in 22 minutes.

Men end three-game losing streak at JSU

Morehead beats Jacksonville State by 10 but loses to Samford University by 29

BY GEOFF AMEND
STAFF WRITER

The Morehead State Men's Basketball team split two away games last week winning at Jacksonville State, ending a three-game losing streak, and then falling to Samford.

MSU beat the Gamecocks at Pete Matthews Coliseum 76-66 without starting junior forward Cory Burn, who was out serving a one-game suspension.

Jacksonville State started the game with a 9-3 run in the first five minutes of the game.

The Eagles quickly responded with a 13-2 run ignited by senior forward Chad McKnight's jumper at 14:41.

Morehead entered the break ahead 30-24. The team's largest lead in the half was seven points at 2:08.

The Gamecocks started the second half in the same fashion as the first, with an 11-2 run in the first three minutes of the half.

The game remained close the entire second half with seven lead changes and four ties from 17:35 to 2:34.

At 2:54 junior guard Quinton

Smith hit a three pointer to give the Eagles the lead and a start to an 18-7 run to close the game.

McKnight who had a game high 25 points and seven rebounds led the Eagles. He also went 9-10 from the free-throw line.

Sophomore guard Josh Reed added in 16 points and freshman center Kevin McDonald came off the bench to score 10 points.

The Eagles bench outscored Jacksonville State's 19-7.

It always good to get a win on the road, Smith said. But this win felt real good.

Morehead then traveled to Seibert Hall in Birmingham, Ala to face off against Samford on Saturday, losing 73-44.

The Bulldogs established their presence early in the game with a 9-0 run after Reed scored the first basket of the game at 18:42.

The Eagles enter the half trailing Samford 33-18.

Morehead continued to trail with its largest deficit at 41 points at 8:24. The team went on a 16-4 run in the last 7:24 to finish the game.

Reed led the Eagles with 11 points and grabbed three rebounds.

McKnight and freshman guard Tramaine Stevens scored seven and eight points respectively and each pulled down five boards.

The team as a whole went 0-3 from the three-point line and committed 20 turnovers.

Smith said the team didn't attack on offense or defense.

Samford Head Coach Jimmy Tillitte said. We had a championship performance out there tonight. I know that Morehead State did not play particularly well, but independent of that, I think that our performance tonight would have beaten a lot of people on this floor.

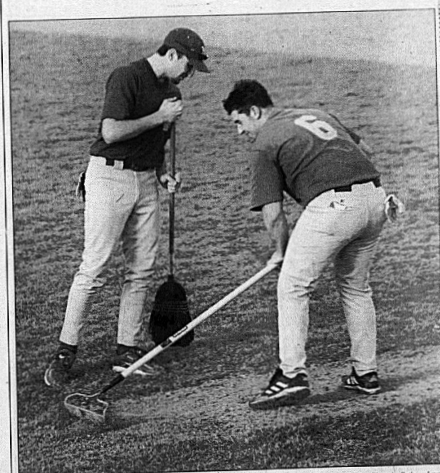
To prepare for the next three games, senior guard Ramon Kelly said. We need to limit our turnovers, get out to the shooters, control the ball and not give up too many offensive rebounds.

Smith said. If we attack the boards more and pressure more, we can beat TKU.

MSU returns home to finish out regular season play with a four-game homestead.

Tonight the Eagles face Eastern Illinois at 7:45 p.m. in Johnson Arena.

This Saturday MSU meets Southeast Missouri at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday the Eagles face Eastern Kentucky and next Saturday the season ends in a game against Tennessee Tech.



Photos by Bethany Lewis

Two Morehead State Baseball players rake and sweep between home plate and first base in order to prepare the field for the upcoming season. The Eagles begin play this weekend at Belmont University and will come home to face Campbellville at 3 p.m. on Tuesday at John "Sonny" Allen Field.

Sports writers can be reached at 783-2697



Eagle Notes

Lady Eagle Combs named OVC Rookie of the Week

Morehead State's Sarah Combs, a 5-8 freshman guard from Eubank, Ky., and Palski County High School, has been named the Ohio Valley Conference's Rookie of the Week for women's basketball.

Combs averaged 9.5 points and 3.5 rebounds. She came off the bench to lead the Lady Eagles in scoring with 16 points at Sanford. In that game, she hit six-of-seven field goals, including four-of-five from three-point range.

Morehead State Tennis teams possess winning record

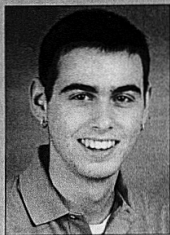
Men's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
Jan. 29	at Western Kentucky	W	6-1
Feb. 3	Appalachian State	L	5-2
Feb. 5	vs. Chattanooga	W	5-2
Feb. 5	vs. Abilene Christian	W	4-3
Feb. 12	University of Dayton	W	4-3

Women's Tennis

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
Jan. 29	at Western Kentucky	W	7-0
Feb. 5	vs. Wright State	W	6-1
Feb. 12	Dayton	W	4-3

Trail Blazer Student-Athlete of the Week: Nick Rosati



Nick Rosati

Freshman Nick Rosati of the Men's MSU Rifle team Rosati posted the top overall score at the NCAA Selection Match last Saturday in Cincinnati.

The match is used to determine both the individual and team qualifiers for the NCAA Championships. Rosati finished with a 1121, but his smaller score was especially impressive, registering a 571 (197-179-195).

It was the ninth-best overall score among the shooters in Cincinnati, which included nationally-ranked teams Xavier, Rose-Hulman, Ohio State and West Virginia. He also shot a 550 in the air rifle.

Overall, his total score of 1121 was 11 points higher than his next closest teammate 18th overall. Rosati will have to wait to see if any of his scores will qualify him for the NCAA Championships, which will be held from March 10-12 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

He is from Rochester, N.Y. and is *The Trail Blazer* Student-Athlete of the Week.

EAGLE SCHEDULE

Thursday Feb. 17
Women's Basketball @ Home 5:30 p.m.
Men's Basketball @ Home 7:45 p.m.
Friday Feb. 18
Eagle Baseball @ Belmont 3 p.m.
Saturday Feb. 19
MSU Track/Field @ Ohio State
Eagle Baseball @ Belmont 2 p.m.
Women's Basketball @ Home 5:30 p.m.
Men's Basketball @ Home 7:45 p.m.
Tuesday Feb. 22
Men's Basketball @ Home 7 p.m.
Eagle Baseball @ Home 3 p.m.
Thursday Feb. 24
Women's Basketball @ Home 7 p.m.
Eagle Baseball @ Home 3 p.m.



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